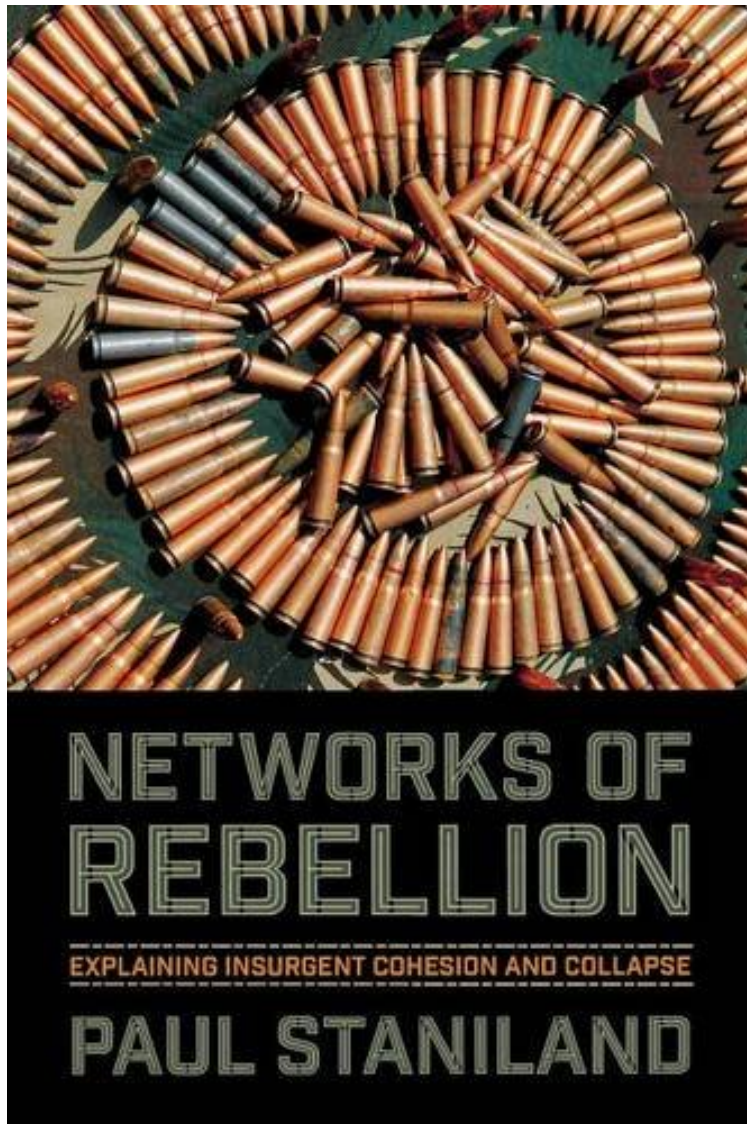


(Ebook pdf) Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs)

## Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs)

*Paul Staniland*

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**Paul Staniland : Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs):

0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By David Munyua  
More of stories than concepts  
0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars  
By Guy G. Griffaw  
Great job  
0 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Great Read and Investment  
By Vail Fortson  
Amazing! Strongly recommend!

The organizational cohesion of insurgent groups is central to explaining patterns of violence, the effectiveness of counterinsurgency, and civil war outcomes. Cohesive insurgent groups produce more effective war-fighting forces and are more credible negotiators; organizational cohesion shapes both the duration of wars and their ultimate resolution. In *Networks of Rebellion*, Paul Staniland explains why insurgent leaders differ so radically in their ability to build strong organizations and why the cohesion of armed groups changes over time during conflicts. He outlines a new way of thinking about the sources and structure of insurgent groups, distinguishing among integrated, vanguard, parochial, and fragmented groups. Staniland compares insurgent groups, their differing social bases, and how the nature of the coalitions and networks within which these armed groups were built has determined their discipline and internal control. He examines insurgent groups in Afghanistan, 1975 to the present day, Kashmir (1988-2003), Sri Lanka from the 1970s to the defeat of the Tamil Tigers in 2009, and several communist uprisings in Southeast Asia during the Cold War. The initial organization of an insurgent group depends on the position of its leaders in prewar political networks. These social bases shape what leaders can and cannot do when they build a new insurgent group. Counterinsurgency, insurgent strategy, and international intervention can cause organizational change. During war, insurgent groups are embedded in social ties that determine how they organize, fight, and negotiate; as these ties shift, organizational structure changes as well.

"Paul Staniland is emerging as one of the most creative and influential scholars of political violence. His *Networks of Rebellion* will cement that reputation. . . . the book is a model of cogent theorization, inventive but systematic research design, and effective writing. It constitutes a substantial contribution to the scholarship on political violence and a milestone for field-based, comparative research. . . . Staniland's work is seminal. To understand civil war we need to understand insurgents, and to understand insurgents we need to look at the social foundations of insurgent organizations. . . . *Networks of Rebellion* is impressive empirically. The writing is clear and compelling. The book deserves the recognition it has received and is likely to continue to receive." Scott Strauss, *Perspectives on Politics* (March 2016)  
"Paul Staniland's *Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse* is an important contribution to the analysis of terror networks and their motivations. It deals with a variety of conflicts, many of which Staniland acknowledges as being under-researched, and presents clear, understandable explanations of each organization under review. Through detailed case studies, Staniland highlights the subtle differences between the groups, which in other studies might be discussed collectively under particular titles such as "religious extremist" or may not be discussed at all if they are smaller or do not pose the largest threat and illustrates how subtle differences can have significant implications." Patrick Finnegan, *Parameters* (Autumn 2016)  
"Staniland's three case studies serve as comparative evidence to test the author's theory. Additionally, the case studies make valuable contributions to the study of Kashmir, Afghanistan, and Sri Lanka. The author's personal field research supports each of the three case studies, which adds to their overall value and lends support to his argument. Serious students of insurgency, irregular warfare, strategy, international relations, and Southern Asia will value this groundbreaking study. Staniland's work is very much worth reading, especially for those who wish to understand insurgent organizations, particularly insurgent organizations in Kashmir, Afghanistan, and Sri Lanka." Lt. Col. Jonathan P. Klug, *Military*  
"*Networks of Rebellion* is a tour de force, providing a new theory for understanding why rebel groups have different types of internal organization, and why some hold up to the pressures of war while others collapse. The organization of rebellion is critical for understanding both patterns of violence and the ways that wars end. . . . It is elegantly written, well argued, and thoroughly researched. Staniland has clearly made a significant contribution to our understanding of rebellion. Moreover, this book is among the most policy-relevant works in political science at this juncture. It is not only a must read for scholars, but for practitioners trying to grasp the intricacies of insurgency, multiparty civil wars, and conflict resolution more generally." Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham, *H-Diplo/ISSF Roundtable*  
"Staniland's project is diligent in its methodological rigour, impressive in its empirical findings, and assertive and compelling in the theory it builds accordingly. Staniland's contribution to insurgency studies is reminiscent to how the field of critical terrorism studies emerged from scholarly dissatisfaction with the pre-existing quality of work in terrorism studies, particularly in terms of its epistemology, ontology, ethics, and praxis. His mission is ambitious, but *Networks of Rebellion* delivers against it and has laid the foundations of a new research agenda." Will Carter, *Small Wars and Insurgencies* (2015)  
"*Networks of Rebellion* is a superb exemplar of high quality research on complex civil war phenomena: it carefully combines theory and empirics, structure and agency, and pre-war conditions and dynamics that are endogenous to war. . . . Staniland's theory, along with an analysis of the strategic context in which groups operate, is likely to be of great use for scholars studying other civil war phenomena such as armed groups military effectiveness, patterns of violence against civilians, and the ability and capacity of armed groups to negotiate and demobilize." Juan Masullo J., *Global Policy Journal* (15 May 2015)  
"With the reported emergence of some 1,000 rebel groups in the

spreading Syrian civil war and the stark contrast of those that seem organized and formidable as opposed to transitory, a careful study of insurgents' structures and networks is most timely. Staniland . . . focuses on whether the groups are 'horizontally' or 'vertically' integrated or relatively isolated across/within locations, collaborators, and subsidiaries. . . . This book nicely presents a coherent overall typology complete with extenuating circumstances of contextual and political environments within which groups operate."Choice (March 2015) "Rebel groups vary considerably, yet systematically, both vis--vis each other and over time. As a simple observation this may sound trivial until one realizes that it tends to be overlooked both in academic research and policy analysis. In contrast, Staniland tells us exactly how these groups vary, by exploring the organizational dimension of rebel groups in a way that seamlessly integrates prewar social structure and wartime dynamics, theory and empirics, abstract intuition and historical texture. Extremely insightful and an exemplar of clarity, this book is likely to spur a new research program in the study of civil wars."Stathis Kalyvas, Arnold Wolfers Professor of Political Science and Director, Program on Order, Conflict and Violence, Yale University "Networks of Rebellion is a major work. Paul Staniland's use of the South Asian cases is especially significant, because despite a host of case studies few serious attempts have been made to integrate these cases into the wider stream of literature on counterinsurgency. Staniland advances an original interpretation and enhances our understanding of the prospects and fortunes of insurgent organizations."Sumit Ganguly, Rabindranath Tagore Professor of Indian Cultures and Civilizations, Indiana University, author of Conflict Unending: India-Pakistan Tensions since 1947 "Can one understand the effectiveness of insurgent organizations without analyzing the social ties in which they are embedded? This question lies at the heart of this book. Drawing primarily on new research materials from Kashmir, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, Paul Staniland builds an account that is thought-provoking, closely reasoned, and truly enlightening."Ashutosh Varshney, Sol Goldman Professor of International Studies and the Social Sciences and Professor of Political Science, Brown UniversityAbout the Author Paul Staniland is Assistant Professor of Political Science and Codirector of the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago.